スカーレット・ベリ子
SCARLET BERIKO
SMILE MAKER

April. Spring...
L... LET'S GO! ON THE COUNT OF THREE WE'LL BOTH SAY IT, OKAY?
UH... YEAH YEAH, GOT IT, GOT IT.
H...HEY, TAKE THIS SERIOUSLY! ARE YOU WITH ME? COME ON, ONE, TWO, THREE...
KASUMI-SAAAN!
YOU KNOW, KEIKO HERE AND MYSELF ARE HAVING A STUDY SESSION AT MY HOUSE TODAY, BUT... PERHAPS YOU'D LIKE TO COME TOO?
THE TOP STUDENT IN THE GRADE'S NOTES SURE WOULD BE HANDY, WE THOUGHT...
'sup

Fwish.
!?
WHA...?
WHEN YOU'RE DONE COPYING, JUST LEAVE IT ON MY DESK.
WHAT'S THAT!?
TRYING TO SAY US COMMONERS AREN'T GOOD ENOUGH TO ASSOCIATE WITH MS. COSMOPOLITAN TOP-OF-THE-CLASS?
THAT'S ENOUGH!
Yank.
Gaaaa
aaa!!!
Dimwit!! You don't understand a thing!!!
HER BEARING WHEN SHE SPOKE AT THE FRESHMEN INDUCTION CEREMONY... THAT BEAUTY! HER MANNER THAT KEEPS OTHER PEOPLE AT A DISTANCE... THAT AURA!
KASUMI SAKURA-SAN... IT'S FINE FOR HER TO BE LIKE THAT! NO, IT'S EXQUISITE FOR HER TO BE LIKE THAT! JUST GETTING HER NOTES IS, TRULY, A BOUNTIFUL HAUL!
Eee
k!!
Shake shake.
HOW 'BOUT THAT...
Wonderful, Dreamlike Onee-san.

Ugh, there's more?
WHIRL
AND YET DESPITE THAT! DESPITE THAT, YOU...!!
Saaakuuu-
raaaaaaaaaaaa!!
Ah.
LOOK WHO ARRIVED.
WAAAAA!
Shall I slit my belly in penance? Shall I? Will it hurt? Will this hurt? Does disembowelment hurt!?
This churl knows no sufficient words of apology! The classical literature notes you magnanimously bestowed to my keeping, I have ungraciously neglected to bring!! Oh, ignominy!!
Shiiiiing
THUNK!
Ha ha At it again
YOU'LL LET ME KEEP THEM?! THANK YOU!
HUH?
AKANE YAE...!
SOME OLD FRIEND OF HERS FROM BEFORE HER TIME OVERSEAS... OR WHATEVER. I DON'T REALLY KNOW, BUT GOD! SHE'S ANNOYING. COMING HERE EVERY SINGLE DAY TO PESTER KASUMI-SAN...

THEY DON'T LOOK TO BE ESPECIALLY CLOSE TO ME...
HEH! THAT'S WHAT FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN LITTLE KIDS IS WORTH!
Hmph!
I MEAN JUST LOOK AT HOW MUCH KASUMI-SAN
LOOK AT THIS!
I BROUGHT A TON OF PICTURES FROM WHEN WE WERE LITTLE!
FWUMP
THUMP
REALLY TAKES YOU BACK, HUH! YOU WERE SUCH A CRYBABY THEN... OOH, LOOK LOOK, HERE'S THE TIME WE FELL IN THE THREE-LEGGED RACE!
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
AND HERE! THE TIME I ALMOST DROWNED IN THE OCEAN!
Ha ha! That was hilarious

SAKURA?
GLATTER.
AND THIS ONE HERE! FROM THE DAY BEFORE YOU MOVED TO ITALY—
YOU'RE DISTURBING ME.
DING DONG DING
YOU'VE DONE WHAT YOU CAME HERE FOR, RIGHT?
PLEASE LEAVE.
Ohh!
YAE!
Geez, AGAIN?
THOUGHT WE'D FIND YOU HERE!

Geez! Hahaha!
What's with that get-up anyway?
Does it look good on me?
.....
QUIT CAUSING PROBLEMS FOR THE CLASS NEXT DOOR!
Awwww
SORRY, KASUMI-SAN! WE'LL GET THIS BACK WHERE IT BELONGS!
Yank!
I'LL COME AGAIN, 'K!
All right, come on!
Pull out! Retreat!
ACTUALLY, LET'S GO HOME TOGETHER TODAY! HOW'S THAT SOUND? GOOD??

Give it up, Lupin! You're under arrest!
bam
HOO-YAH!!! TODAY WILL BE THE DAY I FINALLY GO HOME WITH YOU, SAKURA!!
Under arm
IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR KASUMI-SAN, I'M AFRAID SHE LEFT LONG AGO.
OH HO HO?
Fake sideburns
Assigned to daily clean-up duty
clatter
click
clatter
WH- WHAT'S THAT YOU SAY!? BUT, THERE MIGHT YET BE TIME... AFTER HER, MEN!!!
PRAISING ME LIKE THAT THE FIRST TIME YOU MEET ME, YOU'RE GOING TO MAKE ME BLUSH...
MY...
Heh heh
FIDGET
FIDGET
COULD YOU PLEASE DISAPPEAR?
!!
YOU REALLY DON'T GET DISCOURAGED, DO YOU?
Window

...HUH?
IT SEEMS KASUMI-SAN HAS BECOME THOROUGHLY ANNOYED WITH YOU ALWAYS BUZZING AROUND HER,
SO SHE ASKED ME TO PASS THAT MESSAGE ALONG.
"COULD YOU PLEASE TELL HER TO JUST DISAPPEAR?", SHE SAID.
NOTE
I DON'T KNOW WHAT KASUMI-SAN MAY HAVE BEEN LIKE BEFORE, BUT NOW SHE JUST WANTS TO BE LEFT ALONE!
FOR SOMEBODY WHO'S SUPPOSEDLY HER FRIEND, YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND A THING ABOUT HER, DO YOU?
NOBUKO... BEHIND HER...
Ah, man.
IF YOU ARE A REAL FRIEND, I IMAGINE YOU REALIZE WHAT YOU OUGHT TO DO, STARTING TOMORROW...
GET MY DRIFT?
Squeeze

OH...
SAKURA!
OUT-SIDERS...
WHO DON'T KNOW A DAMN THING ABOUT IT...
SHOULD KEEP THEIR MOUTHS SHUT!
JOLT!
UM-
UM KASUMI-SAN, YOU SEE...
Eeep
COULD YOU REPEAT THAT BIT FOR ME, PLEASE?
WHOM DID YOU GET THAT MESSAGE FROM?
Loom.

THANK YOU FOR SAVING ME!
AH... HOLD UP!
SAKU-RA!!
SAVING YOU? I JUST HATE PEOPLE STARTING RUMORS WHEN THEY'RE REALLY CLUELESS, THAT'S ALL.
Pad pad pad.
Hehheh♭
BUT YOU REALLY HELPED ME OUT! THANK YOU!
.....
Kwoop
YOU KNOW, OF THAT DAY BEFORE YOU MOVED AWAY...
HEY, HEY! THIS SHRINE HERE BRINGS BACK SOME MEMORIES TOO, DOESN'T IT?

YAAAANK!
Gaurhuk!
Gape
whoa aaa!!!
SAKURA, THIS THING!!
MEOW
EEEEK!!
YOU STILL CARRY THIS THING?
I'VE GOT MINE TOO, WANT TO SEE!?
BA
M!
LET ME JUST SAY THIS.

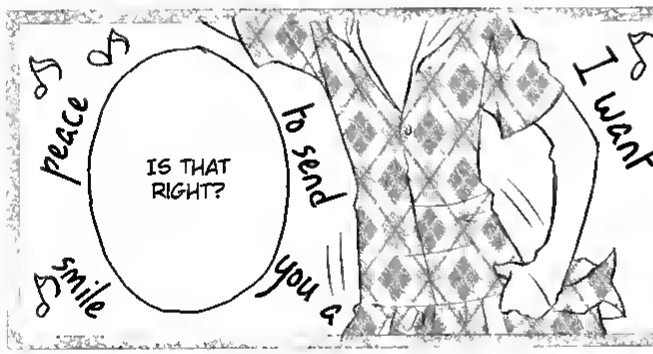
Ploosh.
WHAT MORITA-SAN SAID TO YOU, WASN'T REALLY INACCURATE.
DAY AFTER DAY, ALWAYS STICKING AROUND ME...
FRANKLY, I'M GETTING SICK OF IT.
Thud
IT'S JUST YOU. YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE...
WHO REFUSES TO CHANGE!

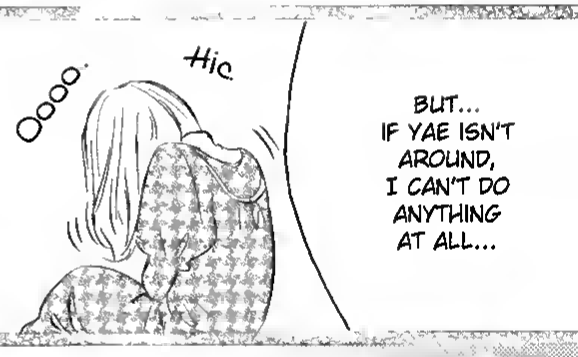
Sakura!
Remember? How could I possibly forget?
"You still carry this thing?"
That's exactly why
I didn't want to see you.
Sakura

This view...
This place...
–They haven't changed either.
The thing that has changed is...
HERE YOU GO!
HUH?
LOOK, THERE'S A PLACE IN THE BACK WHERE YOU CAN PUT A MESSAGE IN.
HERE, WRITE DOWN WHAT YOUR GOAL IS!
Come on, don't cry anymore!
MY GOAL?
sob
sniffle

Ooooooo...
YA...
IT'S FROM YESTERDAY'S EPISODE OF "IDOL ANGEL MAKIKO"! ♥
MAKI

THOUGH WE MAY BE SEPARATED, IF WE BOTH HOLD OUR GOALS STEADFASTLY IN OUR HEARTS...
SOMEDAY, SOMEWHERE, WITHOUT FAIL, WE WILL MEET AGAIN!
Squeeze.


I want
to send
you a
peace
smile
IS THAT RIGHT?


Hic
Oooo.
BUT... IF YAE ISN'T AROUND, I CAN'T DO ANYTHING AT ALL...

sniffle
drip
drip
sob
A- AND I WILL SEE YOU AGAIN, DEF... INITELY... S-S-SOMEDAY, S-SOMEWH... ERE...!
sniffle

BECAUSE THAT'S HOW BADLY I WANT TO SEE YOU AGAIN.
I'LL KEEP FIGHTING HARD, EVEN IF SAKURA'S NOT AROUND.

So that someday, somewhere,
without fail, we'll...
Yae...
Oogh...
WAUGHHH! IT JUST HIT HOME ALL OF A SUDDEN! NO! YOU CAN'T! YOU'RE NOT ALLOWED TO LEAVE!!
WHOMP
AHHHHH!!
clench
"SOMEDAY" IS NO GOOD! WHEN'S "SOMEDAY"?? I'M LONELY NOW!
drip
drop
drip
URGH... I GOT IT! I KNOW, SO...
I'LL KEEP THAT PROMISE, OKAY? I WILL! I WILL!

What!?
No way...!
lean
pad
pad
pad
huff
huff
huff
huff
huff
PLOOSH
HIII-YAHHH!!
whoo
NOT IT EITHER, HUH...
droop
SHOOT!

!
GOT
YA...
IT!!
SLIDE
Oh...
Why...
GOT IT!
SAKURA!
WHY'D YOU HAVE TO GO AND DO A THING LIKE THAT!?
Oh!?

DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND THAT WHEN YOU DO THAT,
YOU JUST MAKE ME MORE AND MORE MISERABLE!!?
WHY HAVE YOU ALWAYS BEEN LIKE THIS?!
YOU ACT WITH NO REGARD FOR MY FEELINGS AT ALL!
THAT PART OF YOU HAS ALWAYS MADE ME SO...
.....!
IT'S ALWAYS MADE ME FEEL...
SO ENVIOUS.
Fwp.

I'll make lots of friends and smile all the time, just like Yae
SAKURA
I DIDN'T...
KEEP THE PROMISE.
Yae...
Ha ha ha ha!
QUITE THE CONVENIENT FRIEND!
Ha ha, yep, yep!
ALWAYS WAGGING HER LITTLE TAIL.
SAKURA, MAN, SHE'LL REALLY DO ANYTHING YOU ASK HER TO!
Yae!
WHEN I FOUND YOU THE DAY OF THE FRESHMEN ENTRANCE CEREMONY,
I WAS SO HAPPY, YAE.
Wake up, dammit!
The ceremony's over!
nyup nyup
I can talk to Yae again!
I can be with Yae again!

We can lau—
It's a promise!
I can't do it...
JOLT
!
SAKURA?!
I can't
Eeek!!
Huh?
Sakuraaa!
let her find out!
I can't let her know...
how pathetic I've become.
I just want her to remember me as the person I was then.
CLENCH
I want to stay that way, always—
!

YOU'RE REALLY AWESOME, SAKURA!
I NEVER WROTE A "GOAL" OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT ON MINE, THOUGH! COULDN'T THINK OF ONE.
AH! NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT! THERE WAS SOMETHING SORTA LIKE THAT, WASN'T THERE?!
I REMEMBER IT NOW!
MAN, HOW TO SAY IT, YOU ALWAYS WERE PRETTY SERIOUS... NO NO, I MEAN YOU'VE REALLY GOT INTEGRITY...
Ha ha ha
YOU-
YOU'RE THE ONE WHOSE IDEA THE WHOLE THING WAS!!!
ARE YOU KIDDING ME?!
I... I MEAN, YOU WERE CRYING AND ALL, I HAD TO COME UP WITH SOMETHING TO MAKE YOU STOP...
Yes.
Sorry.
I AT LEAST REMEMBERED GIVING YOU THE KEYCHAIN THING...
I can't BELIEVE her!!
AND I MEAN, IF YOU ASK ME THE ONE THING I REALLY REMEMBER ABOUT IT...
IT'S JUST HOW MUCH FUN IT ALL WAS!

Kaoru
Akane
YOU FEEL THE SAME WAY, RIGHT?
I REALLY LOVED BEING TOGETHER WITH YOU, SAKURA!

That's right...
SO, Y'KNOW-
I HAD ALSO...
FOR-GOTTEN.
What'd you forget?
HMM?
Nothing at all has changed.
Wahhhh!
Sob, sniffle
Yae.
Yae...
What's the matter? Sakura!
Come on, laugh!
This is exactly how it's always been.
...YAE.
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
?

I'd forgotten.
SAKURA!
LET'S LAUGH TOGETHER AGAIN!

SPLASH!
Hi-yaah!
Splish.
Ha ha!
Hi-Hold it!
SPLASH.
Ahahaha
.....
WHAT ON EARTH ARE THEY DOING?
Just kidding!!
SANTIAGO!
Pounce!
Eeek!
Geez!
SO KASUMI-SAN...
CAN SMILE LIKE THAT...

IF YOU WANT TO GO APOLOGIZE, I'LL COME WITH YOU.
BLUSH
.....
A real friend...
A- A- A- APOLOGIZE!? WHY DO I HAVE TO DO A, A THING LIKE THAT...
To that, to that uh, um
IT'S OKAY, YOU KNOW. YOU DON'T HAVE TO PLAY STUBBORN WITH ME.
...!!!
WHAT?
WHIP!
What is it
TO-MORROW... I'LL TREAT YOU TO LUNCH...
OOH
LUCKY ME.
If you are a real friend, then...

YEAH,
I KNOW.
IT'S JUST, I SORT OF FEEL A LITTLE...
JEALOUS, RIGHT?
HEYYY!
LET US JOIN IN!

End

Smile Maker

by Scarlet Beriko

Scans: WeatheredPeach

Translation: Gulf Standard

Editing: WeatheredPeach, Phyis

QC: Procyon

Yuri Project
yuriproject.net